

August 13, 1999

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

re: DOCKET NOS: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-O197.

To whom it may concern:

I strongly feel that the FDA should prohibit the practice of forced molting of laying hens. The FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting and has the jurisdiction to ban this practice. The petition should be granted. Forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs. Forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote the disease Salmonella, which injures human health. The FDA should do more than just put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and should regulate egg refrigeration temperatures. As an agency that protects and defends human health, I feel that it is the FDA's duty and obligation to the American public to ban the forced molting of laying hens.

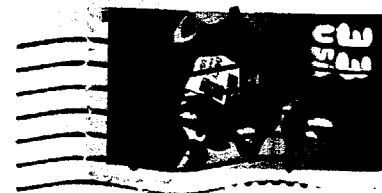
Your truly,

Stephanie Baker

96P-0418

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C341

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C342
96P-0418/ C341